

Council Report

2nd Assembly

RDML Shepard Smith (USA), Council Chair

Vice Chair Adm. (Ret) Luiz Fernando PALMER FONSECA (Brazil)

Secretary Dr. Mathias JONAS, Secretary General

assisted by Assistant Director Yves GUILLAM



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International
Hydrographic
Organization

2nd ASSEMBLY
VTC, 16 – 18 November, 2020

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Origin and Purpose of the Council

- Origin:
 - Created by Protocol of Amendments
 - The first Council was stood up after the first Assembly.
- Purpose:
 - Ongoing executive oversight by Member States
 - Accelerate decision processes
 - Provide a forum to mature proposals for Member State consideration

Article 6

Article VI of the Convention is amended to read as follows:

- (a) *"One-fourth of, but not less than thirty, Member States shall take seats in the Council, the first two-thirds of whom shall take their seats on a regional basis and the remaining one-third on the basis of hydrographic interests, which shall be defined in the General Regulations.*
- (b) *The principles for the composition of the Council shall be laid down in the General Regulations.*
- (c) *Members of the Council shall hold office until the end of the next ordinary session of the Assembly.*
- (d) *Two-thirds of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.*
- (e) *The Council shall meet at least once a year.*
- (f) *Member States not being members of the Council may participate in Council meetings but shall not be entitled to vote.*
- (g) *The functions of the Council shall be to:*
 - (i) *Elect its Chair and Vice-Chair, each of whom shall hold office until the end of the next ordinary session of the Assembly;*
 - (ii) *Exercise such responsibilities as may be delegated to it by the Assembly;*
 - (iii) *Co-ordinate, during the inter-Assembly period, the activities of the Organization within the framework of the strategy, work programme and financial arrangements, as decided by the Assembly;*
 - (iv) *Report to the Assembly at each ordinary session on the work of the Organization;*
 - (v) *Prepare, with the support of the Secretary-General, proposals concerning the overall strategy and the work programme to be adopted by the Assembly;*
 - (vi) *Consider the financial statements and budget estimates prepared by the Secretary-General and submit them for approval to the Assembly with comments and recommendations regarding programmatic allocations of the budget estimates;*
 - (vii) *Review proposals submitted to it by subsidiary organs and refer them:*
 - *To the Assembly for all matters requiring decisions by the Assembly;*
 - *Back to the subsidiary organ if considered necessary; or*
 - *To the Member States for adoption, through correspondence;*
 - (viii) *Propose to the Assembly the establishment of subsidiary organs; and*
 - (ix) *Review draft agreements between the Organization and other organizations, and submit them to the Assembly for approval."*

Protocol of Amendments



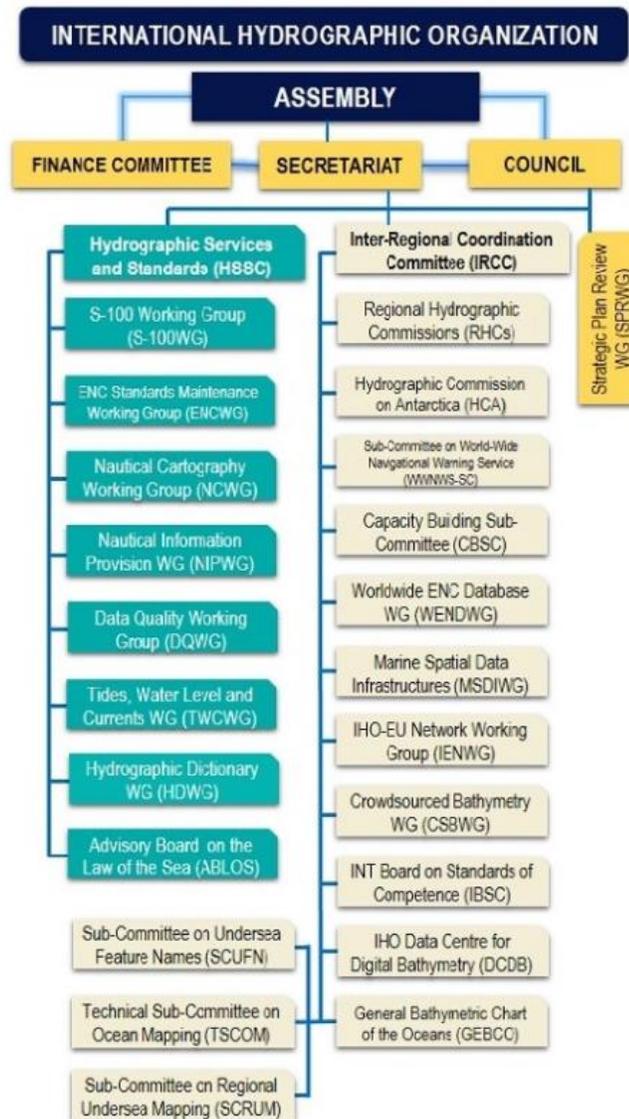
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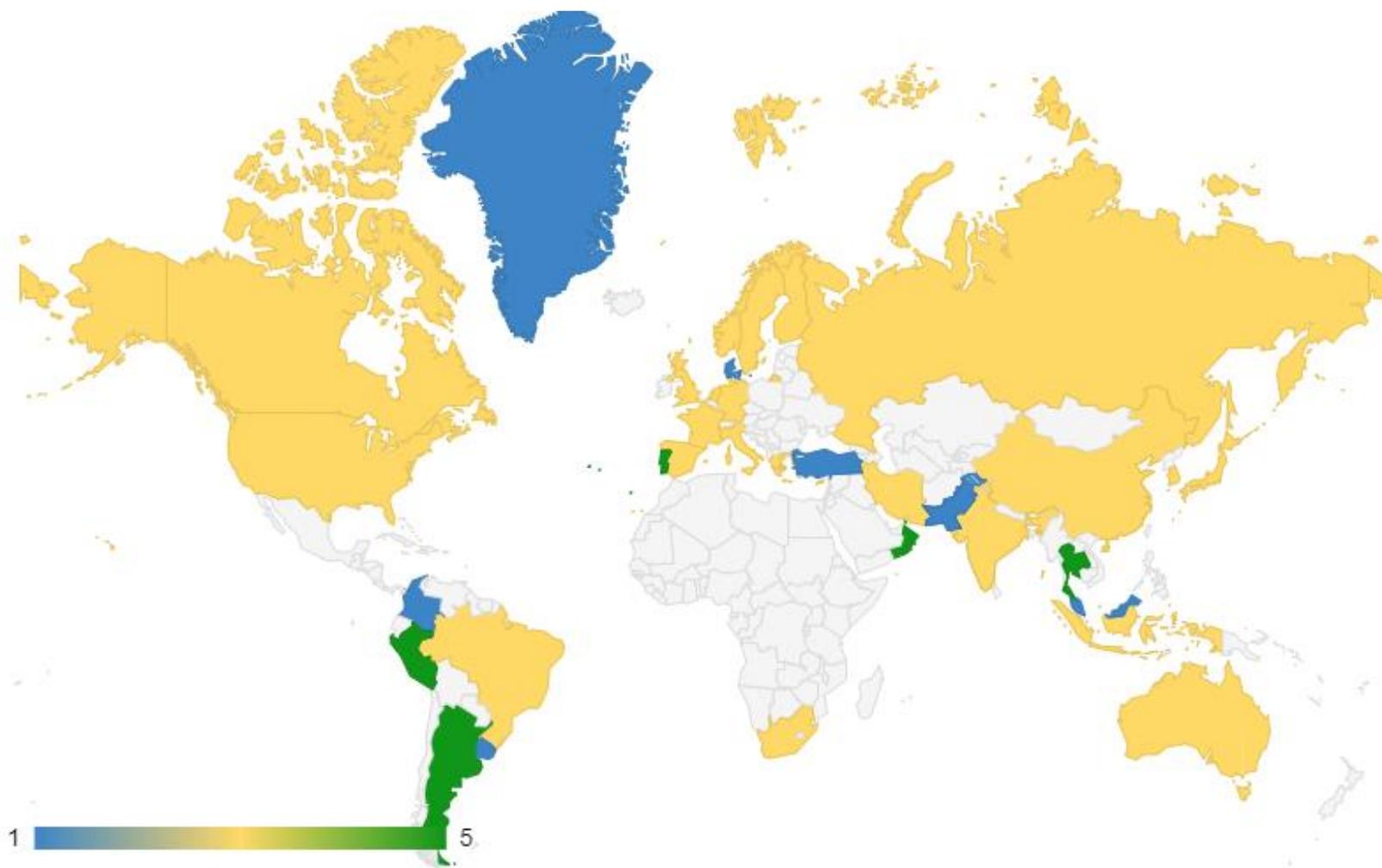
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Goals of the Inaugural Council

- 1) Develop an identity and culture for the Council and institute processes to promote our effectiveness.
- 2) Position ourselves within the existing structures of the IHO, the Secretariat, the IRCC, and the HSSC.
- 3) Develop proposals for the strategic direction of the IHO for the consideration of the Assembly.

Representation at a Glance



Key Member States C1-3 C1-6 C4-6

Member State Participants

C1: 28 + 3 observers

C2: 29 + 10 observers

C3: 28 + 8 observers

In general, approximately 40% of 93 IHO Member States attend a Council meeting each year



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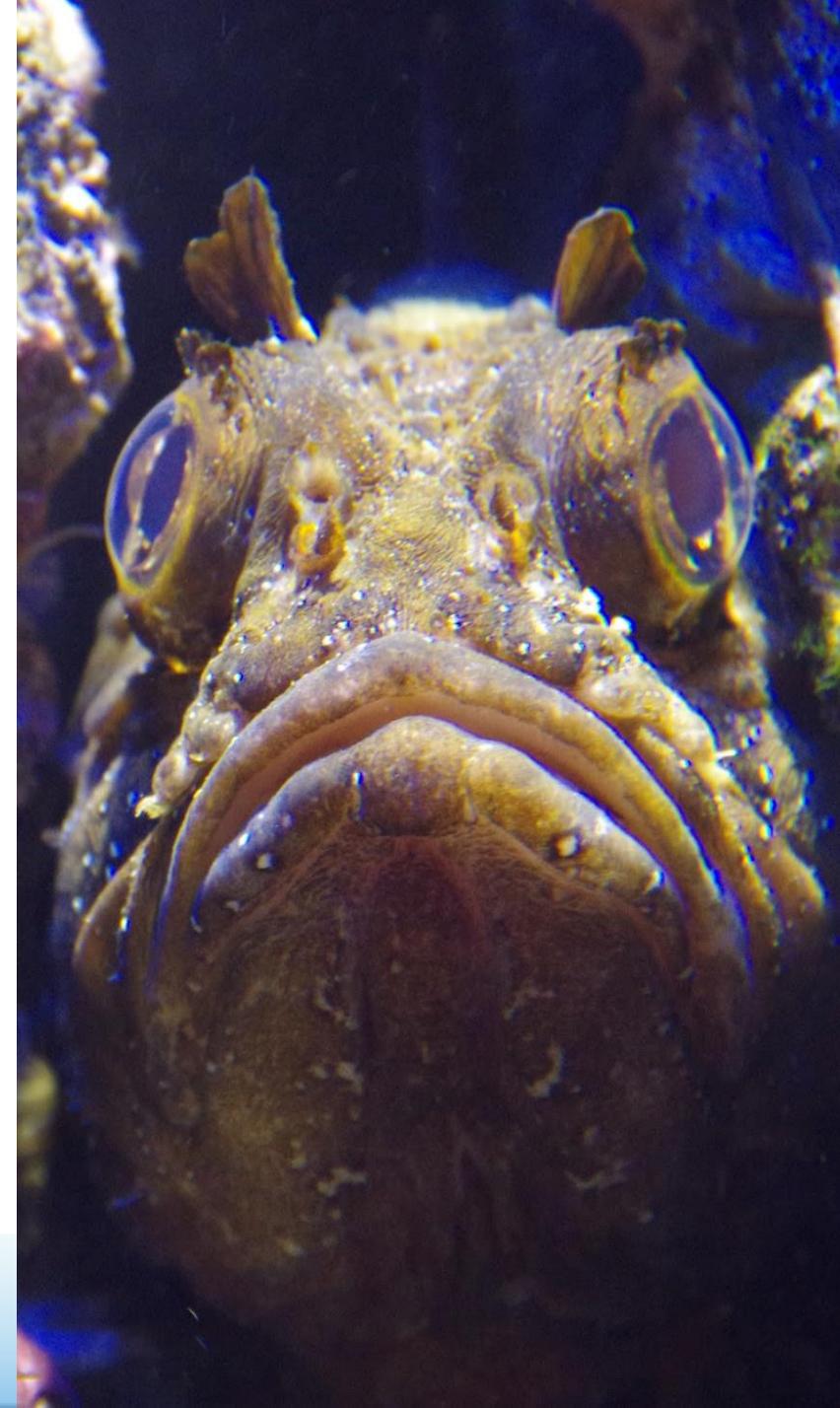
Culture and Processes of Council

- Deliberately kept Council meetings intimate to encourage free flow of ideas. Very few prepared statements. All decisions so far by consensus.
- Agendas were structured to put difficult issues early in the meeting. In some cases, this allowed us to table a topic and revisit it later in the meeting after offline work by interested parties.
- The Council does not have the authority to stand up any Working Groups except those authorized by Assembly. Instead, interested Member States banded together informally to work on a particular proposal between meetings. These efforts were recorded as Council actions, and subsequent proposals recognized from members.



Council Chair and Vice Chair

- Assembly 1 recognized that it was important to have a Council chair identified in advance of the first meeting to prepare for the meeting and to fulfill the role of Council Chair for other purposes under IHO governance procedures.
- RDML Shepard Smith, USA was elected as inaugural chair by circular letter using a one-time process approved by Assembly 1 (A-1).
- Council developed a proposal [see PRO 1.6] to make this important procedure permanent for future Councils.
- PRO 1.6 Adopted by ACL 27



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Council Relation to other IHO Bodies

- At Council 1 (C-1), the members made decisions that clarified the role of the Council with respect to other IHO subsidiary bodies:
 - IRCC and HSSC retain their authority to make operational and routine proposals to IHO Member States through Circular Letters distributed via the Secretariat.
 - Only proposals with strategic impact would be routed through Council for endorsement first before submission to Member States for approval.
 - Council invited the HSSC and IRCC Chairs to attend Council meetings, and to present their annual strategic priorities and accomplishments.



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Standing to Make Proposals to Council

- At Council 1, members discussed an apparent ambiguity in IHO governing documents concerning the standing of Member States and Secretary General to make proposals to Council.
- The Council agreed to recognize proposals made by all Member States and the Secretary-General in advance or during a Council session for Council 1-3.
- Council requested Assembly's concurrence with this interpretation [see PRO 1.1, approved by ACL26].

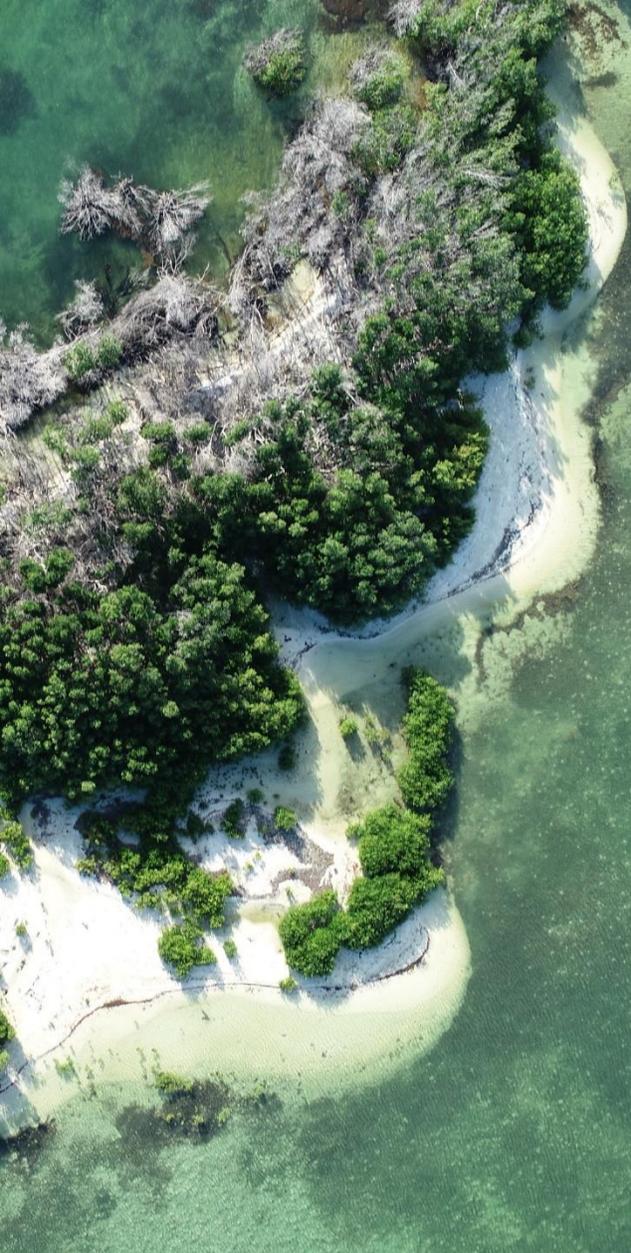


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Strategic Plan Review

- As Requested by A-1, Council addressed the IHO Strategic Plan, and stood up the Strategic Plan Review Working Group. We chose to do it in two phases;
 - Year 1 (C1-C2): Consider the need for a Strategic Plan update, and the purpose and form of the final document
 - Year 2 (C2-C3): Develop the plan with guidance from C2 informed by the scoping work of Year 1.
- The resulting Strategic Plan is presented for your consideration, and will be briefed by the SPRWG chair, VADM Bruno Frachon (France). See PRO 1.8



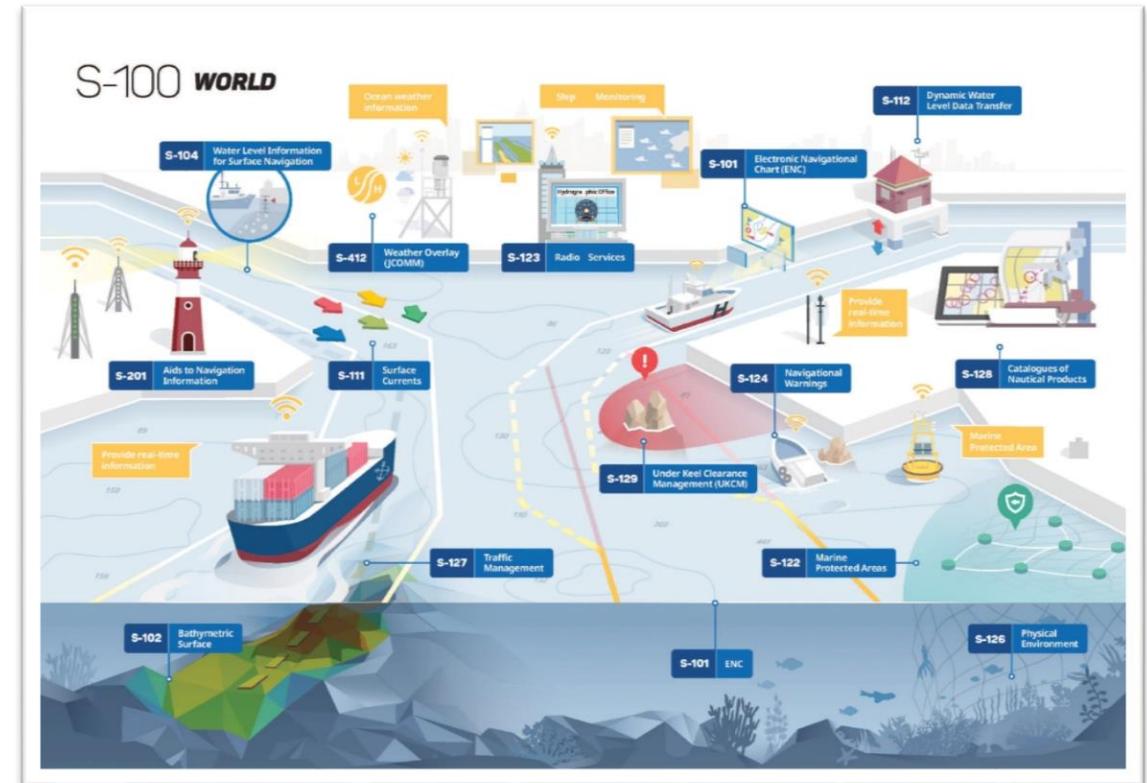
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S-100 Services Roadmap

- At C-2, several members reported that there was active development of services using newly-approved S-100 based standards, and Council recognized the need to coordinate these services between members and with industry and the IMO
- Council 2 stood up an informal drafting team made up of the Secretary General, the Council Chair, and the chairs of the IRCC and HSSC to develop the first draft of a decadal roadmap for S-100 based services.



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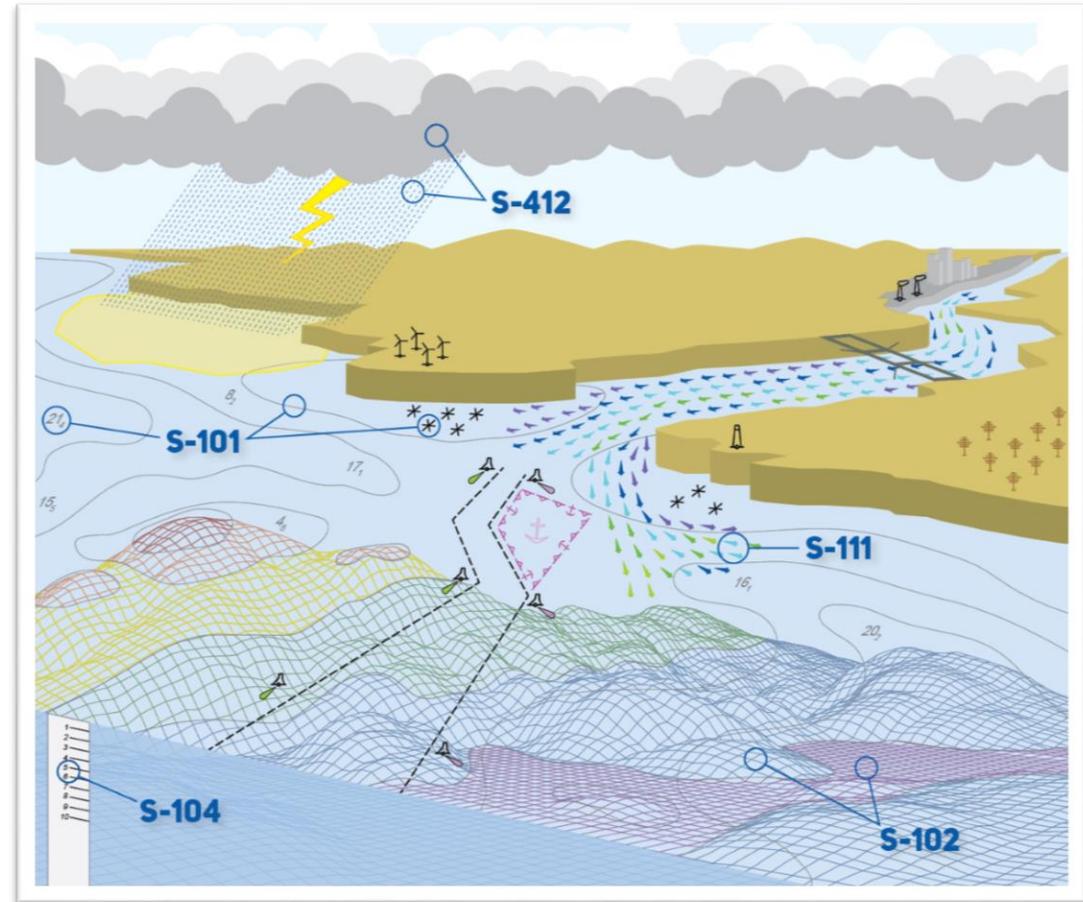
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S-100 Services Roadmap *(continued)*

- Council 3 discussed the Roadmap at length and made three decisions:
 - The Roadmap in its current form should be endorsed as version 1 and used to guide IHO groups and as reference for coordination with other entities (IMO)
 - Endorse the work being done by WEND to develop WEND-like principles applicable to other services beyond ENC's (WEND100)
 - Council should propose to Assembly that the Roadmap should be updated annually by the Council, with input from the SG, IRCC, HSSC, and IHO Member States.



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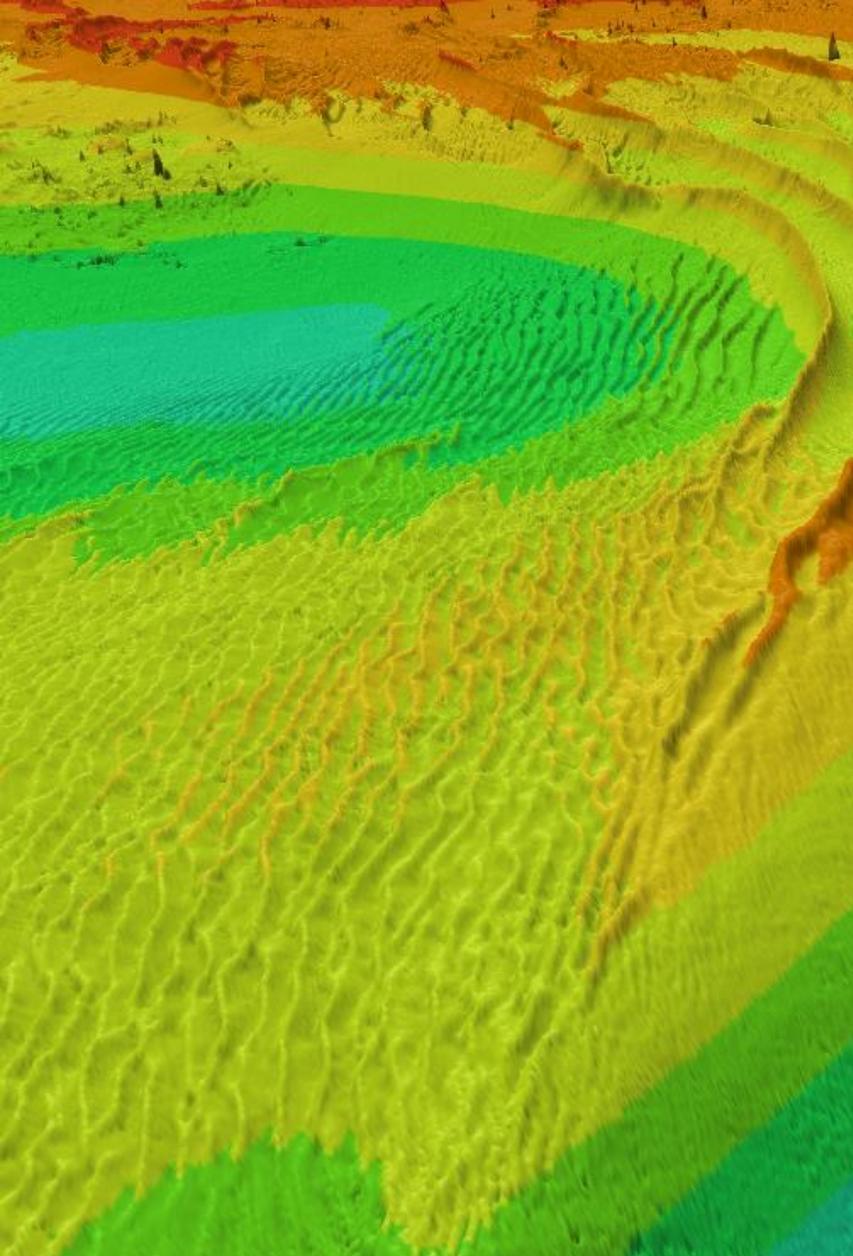
IHO Budget Discussion Council 3

- Increases in cost of IHO staff and benefits has profoundly affected the IHO's ability to continue supporting core functions of the IHO.
- Council recognizes the efforts of the Secretariat and of subsidiary bodies to economize and develop efficiencies, and that this may be insufficient.
- This trend has been ongoing for a number of years but has been masked by increased revenue from the accession of new members. The rate of accession is expected to slow in coming years.
- As a result, there is a high likelihood that the IHO will be *unable to support standards development and administration of the capacity building program*, which would substantially reduce the impact of the IHO overall.



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Proposed Budget

- Council 3 requested that the Secretary-General prepare a proposed budget for Assembly to give the Council and SG the option of a modest increase in dues if it is deemed necessary between Assemblies.
- This same procedure has been used frequently in past years, and the history is that the option of a dues increase has been exercised only very rarely.
- Please see C-3/45, refer to PRO 1.7, supported by A-2 Finance Committee.



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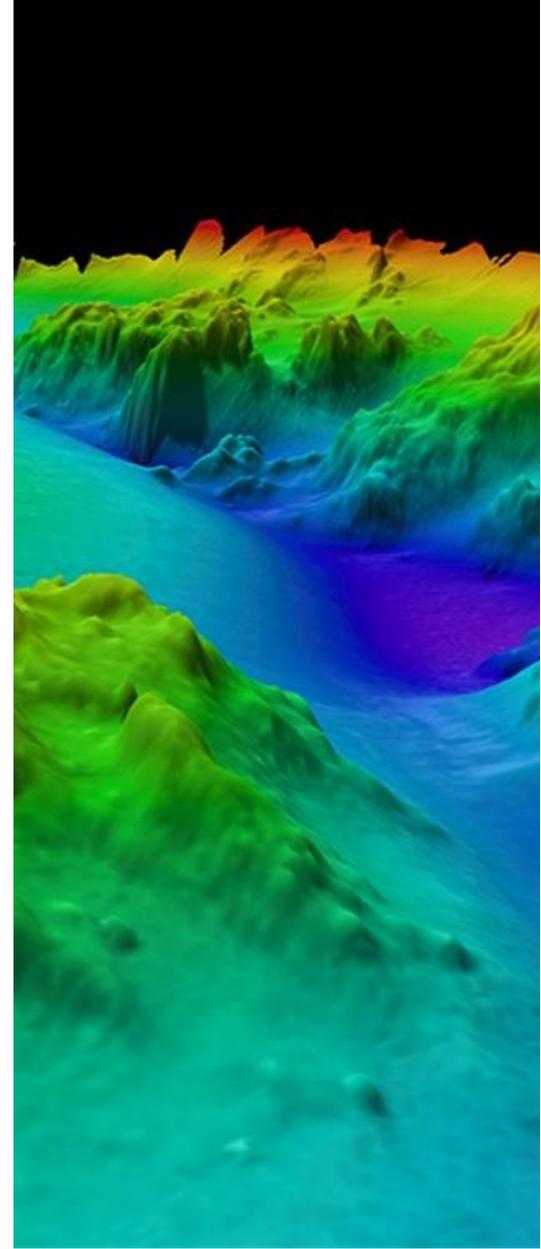
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“Hydrographic Interest”

- Council decision (C-1) not to pursue the definition of Hydrographic Interest for C1-3 in light of more pressing business.
- At C-3, Council noted and discussed a well-prepared proposal from Uruguay, but was far from consensus and referred the matter to the Assembly.
 - *"Noting the mixed opinions on the value of the reconsideration of the definition of Hydrographic Interests shared at the 3rd meeting of the IHO Council (Reference D, Decision C3/11), the Assembly is invited to provide guidance to the Council on the matter, if appropriate (Reference D, Action C2/08)."*
- The ex post facto decision of Assembly 2 (ACL 29) is:
 - Task the new Council to consider the best way forward with proposals PRO-1.4 and PRO-1.5 on the definition of hydrographic interest and report to A-3 in 2023;



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Next Triennial Council

- At the conclusion of C-3, Council made a recommendation to A-2 and C4-6 on the Council focus for the next triennium:
 - *“the effective implementation of the revised Strategic Plan”* keeping in mind to apply the principles of ISO 9001
- With the delay of the A-2 and abbreviated C-4, the timeline is now *even more constrained*-a mere 23 months between now and C-6
- A most critical time- beginning of the decade of implementation of delivery of S-100 services, IHO SP and SPI, key partnerships (IMO), and global focus on climate and the environment.



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Special Thank You...

- Brazil, France, Canada, Japan for volunteering to assume formal roles in the work of the Council- Chair, Vice Chair, Secretariat, etc..
- All the member states that submitted papers and positions in the course of the Council and toward the Assembly
- Member states who attended as observers to contribute



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Final Thoughts from the Outgoing Chair

- Next two years are absolutely critical to the decade and the IHO
 - S-100 Roadmap and SPI *flexibility*- allow Council to adjust course to address issues that will come up
- Council bandwidth is limited, exacerbated by a short triennium. Assembly and Council should be strategic about how they use their time.
- The nimble culture and processes of the Council are a vital asset to the IHO and should be safeguarded from calcifying process rigidity.
- It has been a great personal pleasure to have served as the inaugural Chair. Thank you to all participants for robust and meaningful discussions, and a can-do spirit.
- I have the greatest confidence in Dr. Geneviève Béchard of Canada to lead the next Council.



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Council Proposals to Assembly and Approval Status

Proposal	Status
Pro 1.1 Interpretation of some articles in the Basic Documents of the IHO	Approved via ACL 26
Pro 1.2 Revision of Articles 14, 15, 20 and 25 of the Gen Regs of the IHO	Approved via ACL 26
Pro 1.3 Revision of Clause (c) of Article 16 of the Gen Regs of the IHO (Hydrographic Interest)	Approved via ACL 26
Pro 1.6 Revision of Rule 12 of the RoP of the IHO Council and consequence of Rules 8 and 11 (timing of election of the chair and vice-chair)	Approved via ACL 27
Pro 1.7 3-year Work Programme and Budget 2021-2023	A-2 agenda item 13
Pro 1.8 Revised Strategic Plan	A-2 agenda item 4
Pro 2.1 S-100 Implementation Strategy	A-2 agenda item 9
Pro 3.1 Revision of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 (RHCs)	Approved via ACL 27
Pro 3.2 Revision of the IHO Res 1/2005 (IHO response to disasters)	Approved via ACL 27



Action requested of Assembly

- *Endorse* the submitted written report of Council
- *Note* the already-approved proposals of Council
 - Pro 1.1 Interpretation of some articles in the Basic Documents of the IHO
 - Pro 1.2 Revision of Articles 14, 15, 20 and 25 of the Gen Regs of the IHO
 - Pro 1.3 Revision of Clause (c) of Article 16 of the Gen Regs of the IHO (Hydrographic Interest)
 - Pro 1.6 Revision of Rule 12 of the RoP of the IHO Council and consequence of Rules 8 and 11 (timing of election of the chair and vice-chair)
 - Pro 3.1 Revision of the IHO Resolution 2/1997 (RHCs)
 - Pro 3.2 Revision of the IHO Res 1/2005 (IHO response to disasters)
- *Note ACL 29 para 21.f*
 - *“Task the new Council to consider the best way forward with proposals PRO-1.4 and PRO-1.5 on the definition of hydrographic interest and report to A-3 in 2023”*

